THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In view of the significant changes that have taken place in the international trading environment in recent years, it was felt necessary to restructure the EPCs' in order to improve their functioning and make them more effective. Moreover, with emergence of new sectors of export importance, criteria need to be laid down regarding establishment of new EPC's.

(c) The above steps are expected to improve the functioning of existing EPCs.

Investment in Industrial Sector

5226. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment required to be made in the industrial sector of the country;

(b) the main channels for investment in the industrial sector;

(c) whether Government have formulated any phased programme for investment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) The total required investment to be made in the industrial sector during the ninth plan has been estimated at Rs. 1072.8 thousand crore.

(b) The major channels of investment include private domestic investment, foreign direct investment and public investment (government, including the public sector enterprises).

(c) and (d) While the public investment envisaged in the plan is made operational through the annual budgets, the private investment depends on the perception of the investor and is therefore market driven.

Adverse impact of exim policy for 2000-01

5227. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the Question was revceived in Hindi.